

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10, and 15-32 are pending. By way of the present amendment, claims 1, 15, and 24 have been amended. Claims 1-8, 10, and 15-32 will be pending upon entry of this amendment. Applicants have further amended the pending claims to better recite the present invention. The undersigned Attorney thanks the Examiner and his Supervisor for their kind assistance during a personal interview conducted on October 18, 2007. During the personal interview the Examiner agreed that the addition of "directly" as related to the coupling of the at least two grooves by a hole would overcome the presently recited references including US Publication No. 20030220643 to Ferree. Applicants have amended claims 1, 15, and 24 to include the recitation. Claims 2-8, 10, 16-23, and 25-32 are directly or indirectly dependent on claims 1, 15, 24. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully contend that claims 1-8, 10, and 15-32 are in condition for allowance.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully contend that the amended claims are allowable over the art of record. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to contact the undersigned Attorney prior to the issuance of a prior art rejection to address any remaining issues.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 50-1119** referencing docket no. **559552000123**. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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